

Serial No. 09/380,519, filed 3 September 1999  
Docket No. 1103326-0584  
Page 2 of 7

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### AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:**

1. (Currently amended) A mounting apparatus for mounting an endless cord  $[(2)]$  which is expandable from a contracted condition to an expanded condition onto an end  $[(1)]$  of a structure having a transverse dimension greater than that of the cord when in the contracted condition, said apparatus comprising a tapered adaptor  $[(14; 114)]$  for the cord to be propelled over onto the end of the structure having a forward smaller end  $[(16; 116)]$  for location in the cord in its contracted condition and a rear larger end  $[(18; 118)]$  for juxtaposing with the end of the structure, said apparatus further comprising an expander device  $[(24; 124; 224)]$  movable relative to the adaptor to propel the cord over the adaptor onto the rear larger end thereof, wherein the adaptor  $[(14)]$  comprises a plurality of circumferentially spaced-apart fingers  $[(22)]$  which extend from the rear larger end  $[(18)]$  towards the forward smaller end  $[(16)]$  and the expander device  $[(24)]$  comprises a plurality of circumferentially spaced-apart arms  $[(26)]$  insertable between the fingers of the adaptor, and wherein  
~~e-h-a-r-a-c-t-e-r-i-s-e-d-i-n~~ that the arms  $[(26)]$  of the expander device are tapering;  
~~i.e. have a decreasing extension,~~ in a radial direction towards the center centre.

2. (Currently amended) The  $[(A)]$  mounting apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the expander device  $[(24)]$  is operable in a first mode thereof to propel the cord  $[(2)]$  over the adaptor  $[(14)]$  on to the rear larger end  $[(18)]$  thereof and in a second mode thereof to propel the cord from the rear larger end onto the end  $[(1)]$  of the structure.

Claims 3-4 Cancelled

5. (Currently amended) The  $[(A)]$  mounting apparatus as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the adaptor  $[(14)]$  and the expander device  $[(24)]$  are adapted to mesh with one another to propel the cord  $[(2)]$  over the adaptor to the rear larger end  $[(18)]$  thereof.

Serial No. 09/380,519, filed 3 September 1999  
Docket No. 1103326-0584  
Page 3 of 7

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FEB 29 2008

6. (Currently amended) The [[A]] mounting apparatus as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein circumferentially spaced-apart fingers [[22]] of the adaptor are tapering, ~~i.e. have a decreasing extension~~, in a radial direction towards the center centre.

7. (Currently amended) The [[A]] mounting apparatus as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the forward smaller end of the adaptor [[14]] is presented by a central member [[16]].

8. (Currently amended) The [[A]] mounting apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the central member [[16]] and the fingers [[22]] of the adaptor [[14]] are connected to one another.

9. (Currently amended) The [[A]] mounting apparatus as claimed in claim 2 ~~or 3 or any one of claims 4 to 8 when appendant on claim 2 or 3~~, wherein the expander device [[24]] includes a tubular section [[28]] adapted to slide over the adaptor [[14]] to propel the cord [[2]] from the rear larger end [[18]] thereof onto the end [[1]] of the structure.

Claims 10 – 14 Cancelled

15. (Currently amended) A surgical kit comprising a mounting apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 1, 2 or 5-9 ~~to 14~~.

16. (Currently amended) The [[A]] surgical kit as claimed in claim 15, further comprising ~~including~~ a surgical instrument for ligating internal body tissue.

17. (Currently amended) A method of mounting an endless cord [[2]] which is expandable from a contracted condition to an expanded condition onto an end [[1]] of a structure having a transverse dimension greater than that of the cord in its contracted condition comprising the steps of providing a tapered adapter [[14; 114]] having a forward smaller end [[16; 116]] and a rear larger end [[18; 118]], propelling the cord over the tapered adaptor onto the rear larger end thereof by displacement of an expander-device [[24; 124; 224]] relative to the adaptor and, when the rear larger end of the tapered adaptor is juxtaposed to the end of the structure, propelling the cord from the rear larger end of the adaptor onto the end of the structure, wherein

Serial No. 09/380,519, filed 3 September 1999

Docket No. 110332G-0584

Page 4 of 7

said adaptor comprises a plurality of circumferentially spaced-apart fingers which extend from the rear larger end towards the forward smaller end and the expander device comprises a plurality of circumferentially spaced-apart arms insertable between the fingers of the adaptor, and wherein the expander device is first operated in a first mode thereof to propel the cord over the adaptor on to the rear larger end thereof and thereafter in a second mode thereof to propel the cord from the rear larger end onto the end of the structure.

18. (Currently amended) The [[A]] method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the arms of the expander device are tapering in a radial direction towards the center characterised by ~~displacing the expander device (124; 224) relative to the adaptor (114) to move the cord (2) over the adaptor onto the end (1) of the structure .~~

Claims 19-21 Cancelled